FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

27 MARCH 1984

Lebanon

Security Situation — The Security Arrangements Committee met at the French contingent's headquarters in Beirut and decided that Internal Security Forces will be stationed in positions now occupied by the contingent, Beirut radio reported. The committee also agreed that the area to be vacated by the French will be deemed "neutral" and that the road through the Museum crossing point will be kept open. Meanwhile, French forces continued their gradual withdrawal from Beirut, AFP noted.

In West Beirut all parties abided by the agreement to withdraw gunmen from the streets and allow the Internal Security Forces and the Army's 6th Brigade to maintain security, allowing shops to reopen and eliciting public "satisfaction," Beirut radio reported. However, the calm was subsequently broken by violent artillery exchanges across the contact lines between West and East Beirut, the radio noted. Voice of Lebanon radio reported that 6 people were killed and 30 others wounded in the eastern sector by the shelling, which it claimed was instigated by gunmen in West Beirut and the southern suburb. On the other hand, the clandestine Voice of the Mountain radio accused the Christian side of attempting to advance under cover of mortar and tank fire.

Threat to Junblatt; NSF Role — The Islamic Jihad organization holds Progressive Socialist Party (PSP) leader Walid Junblatt fully responsible for the "humiliation" of Muslims in West Beirut and considers him an "agent" of Israel, an anonymous caller told a news agency in remarks reported by Radio Monte Carlo. Junblatt and his forces should withdraw from Beirut immediately, the caller warned, and Muslims who do not resign from the PSP before 30 April will be "executed." Meanwhile, the Voice of Lebanon held PSP forces responsible for a number of recent kidnappings in West Beirut. As for the National Salvation Front (NSF), Junblatt denied that he is seeking to replace it with a new opposition group, asserting that its institutions will remain effective and active, according to Radio Monte Carlo.

Political Developments — Sources close to the government expect President Amin al-Jumayyil to convene the Higher Security-Political Committee within 48 hours, Beirut radio announced on 27 March. The radio also cited reports from Damascus calling recent talks between Al-Jumayyil's personal envoy and Syrian leaders "encouraging." Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad affirmed in a *TIME* interview broadcast by Damascus television that Syria will "completely" support a national unity government stemming from national accord and will respond "without hesitation" to its request for a Syrian withdrawal from Lebanon after Israel's withdrawal.

Jordan

Queen Elizabeth and Prince Philip received a "warm official reception" on their 26 March arrival for a visit to Jordan at King Husayn's invitation, Amman radio announced. Commenting on the Palestinian "tragedy" in a dinner speech reported by Amman television, the queen said that her government will continue to "support all constructive efforts to achieve a peaceful, just, and lasting solution" to this problem in accordance with UN principles.

Iraqi-Egyptian Relations

Egypt "fully supports" Iraq and will "not hesitate to offer any military aid requested" by it, Egyptian Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali announced in a 26 March press conference reported by INA. Egypt also intends to begin a "new diplomatic move" with nonaligned countries to reach a formula for ending the Iraq-Iran war, 'Ali stated. Before leaving Baghdad, the Egyptian official met with President Saddam Husayn to discuss bilateral relations, developments in the Arab homeland, and the war with Iran, INA reported. 'Ali described the meeting as "important" and called the countries' viewpoints on regional problems "identical," Cairo radio added. The two sides also discussed the "advanced relations" between their countries and ways to further promote them, INA noted. According to remarks cited by AFP, 'Ali said his visit did not mean that diplomatic relations will be normalized.

Iraq

Foreign Minister Tariq 'Aziz met with Donald Rumsfeld on 26 March to discuss bilateral relations, the situation in the region, and the Iran-Iraq war, INA reported.

An Iraqi was wounded when a bomb exploded inside the British Consulate in Baghdad on 26 March, AFP announced citing an "informed source." The man is suspected of having planted the bomb himself, according to the source.

PLO Affairs

The Egyptian Afro-Asian Solidarity Committee has decided to postpone the 30 March Cairo conference in support of the Palestinian people in response to PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat's request, MENA announced. 'Arafat proposed 15 May as an alternate date for the conference, after the meetings of the PNC, MENA added.

Meanwhile, 'Arafat arrived in Algiers on 26 March and held talks with the Algerian president and foreign minister, Algiers radio reported.

Kuwait

The state security court sentenced 6 men to death and 14 others to various prison terms for their part in the explosions at U.S., French, and other installations on 12 December 1983, KUNA reported. Three of those condemned to death are still at large.

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BAKHTAR Criticizes Efforts To Unite Rebels

LD270938 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0435 GMT 27 Mar 84

[Text] Kabul, March 26, BAKHTAR — A political commentator of the BIA writes: The Western propaganda machines nowadays more than any other time confess to the fact that the undeclared war against Afghanistan did not produce the results which they wanted.

At the same time the revolutionary power has consolidated ever further. Moreover, the Western propaganda machines report with regret about the division and disunity among the various counter-revolutionary bands. The enmity and hatred among the counter-revolutionary bands is so widespread that they can not hide it by keeping mum.

Not withstanding these hard realities, imperialists continue its [as received] undeclared war against the DRA. They do not refrain from their efforts to bring under one shelter the mercenary ring-leaders of the counter-revolution and to form a united organization of the bandits.

The world imperialism, in order to achieve its aim, has used powers of different description. [This] time they have brought to the forefront another notorious person, i.e., Amen Wakman, the leader of the dissolved Afghan Milat group. The services and connections of Amen Wakman with the imperialist FRG are known to everyone.

According to the confessions made by the imprisoned ring-leaders of the dissolved fascistic Afghan Milat band, the emigre leaders of the band are in the service of CIA and intelligence service of Great Britain.

At the time prior to the April Revolution, Amen Wakman and his counter-revolutionary fascist band along with the royal retinue participated in the treacherous plots to whip up division and enmity between the brother nationalities residing in Afghanistan. Amen Wakman and his counter-revolutionary fascist band covered themselves under a nationalistic mask and disguised their out-worn and ugly thoughts as some sort of social-democratic slogans.

In the prerevolutionary time, they were in the service of the extremist and most reactionary wing of the ruling circles.

After the triumph of the April Revolution, Amen Wakman and his counter-revolutionary band again masqueraded as social democrats.

Along with the most reactionary elements of international reaction and imperialism they launched counter-revolutionary activities against the April Revolution.

The experience once again will show that this mediation as the previous ones will be a useless one. Amen Wakman, like his predecessors, will fail in the counter-revolutionary schemes worked out in Pentagon and CIA.

President Babrak Karmal's New Year Address

LD201941 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 19 Mar 84

[Statement by President Babrak Karmal on occasion of Afghan new year; date, place not given — recorded]

[Excerpts] Dear compatriots: I warmheartedly congratulate you sister and brother compatriots and farmers and toilers of the country on the arrival of the new year, the festival of Nowruz, the festival of peasants, the beginning of a new spring, the festival of work and toil, the festival of peace and tranquillity, and the festival of fraternity and equality.

Toiling compatriots of the country, during the just-ending year, despite huge problems and intensification of the undeclared war by imperialism and reaction against our revolutionary homeland, and notwithstanding the lunatic designs of these forces to stagnate the process of revolutionary changes in the country, our people, under the leadership of the PDPA, took firm steps toward a glorious future and the realization of democratic changes in the interests of the toilers. During 1362 [year ending 20 March 1984], efforts toward maintaining peace and security throughout the country, eliminating the counterrevolutionaries, and neutralizing the conspiracies of reaction and imperialism were the main tasks of the party and revolutionary sovereignty.

As a result of the measures taken by the government, our people'sliberating Armed Forces have grown and become stronger. The revolution defense groups, self-defense, revolution guards, and tribal units and militia were further consolidated and strengthened. The process of joining the people's strata and classes to the revolution was greatly accelerated. Thousands of members who had joined the ranks of counterrevolutionaries as a result of deception and other reasons joined our revolutionary state and are actively taking part in defending the revolution and its gains.

As a result of the relentless fight and heroic struggle of the courageous Armed Forces and voluntary units and groups, strong and shattering blows were dealt the counterrevolution. The forces of reaction and imperialism and the mercenary servants and traitors to the homeland will never forget the defeats they have seen during the year. The events of 1362 [break in transmission] and the neutralization of efforts made by internal and external counterrevolutionaries, the economy compared with last year has seen further improvement, stability, and growth; relative economic stability has been maintained.

As a result of the realization of the instructions of the 11th Plenum of the PDPA Central Committee, production growth in the agriculture, livestock, and industrial production and increase in internal gross production is about 6 percent. The volume of trade and transport has grown. In the area of social services, education, training, health, and communications, successes have also been achieved.

However, it must be mentioned that notwithstanding all these successes, because of the subversive activities of the counterrevolutionaries, the existing possibilities and economic capacity of the country has not been fully utilized. This fact once again proves that the counterrevolutionaries, at the instruction of their imperialist masters, are trying to prevent by every shameless means and to every possible limit the improvement of the situation of the life of the people and the socioeconomic progress of the country.

Noble compatriots, toiling peasants, in connection with the measures of the party and revolutionary sovereignty in the sphere of the democratic land and water reform, it must be stated that this matter has always been at the center of attention and activity of the party and revolutionary sovereignty. Without the successful realization of the land and water reform, the complete accomplishment of other aims of the revolution and the enhancement of the level of the standard of living of the millions of our people is impossible. During 1362, parallel to the consistent implementation of the land and water reform, amendments and changes were made to a number of documents and legal decrees in the interest of the country's peasants.

Our noble compatriots are aware that necessary and important amendments were made in the Revolutionary Council Decree No 8 on land, land ownership, and relevant regulations on the basis of the study of practical results and experience gained from land and water reforms in accordance with the inclinations and wishes of the country's toiling peasants.

As a result of these measures, agricultural and cattle breeding output in 1362 noticeably increased. We hope that in the coming year more victories will be achieved in these fields by the work and productive efforts of our toiling and noble peasants; 1363 is the year of abundance, affluence, and peaceful work.

With the practical implementation of this law, the broad masses and patriots will be attracted to the administration of government affairs and to the realization of freedom and democratic and equal rights of all nationalities, tribes, and clans of our united homeland, Afghanistan. Thus, the bases of the revolutionary sovereignty will be broadened. This action by itself greatly will assist and help the evolution and deepening of the social revolution, the realization of fundamental socioeconomic and cultural transformations, and the satisfactory defense of the gains of the national and democratic revolution against the conspiracies of the external and internal reaction and will eliminate and liquidate all oppressors and despots in the localities. The masses of the people thus will become their own (?masters), as they should. However, approval of laws does not mean the solution of all difficulties; the practical implementation of law requires continuous and formidable work by the party, government, social organizations, and, finally, all the people of Afghanistan.

Dear compatriots, in 1362, the DRA continued the implementation of its active foreign policy on the basis of peaceful principles, peaceful coexistence, reduction of international tension, defense of the freedom and security of the masses, nonalignment, friendly relations, and reciprocal cooperation with the masses and countries of the world on the basis of respect for national independence, territorial integrity, national sovereignty of countries, noninterference in internal affairs, and nonaggression. We will continue such principled policy.

Based on these principled foundations, we, in our internal and external policy, will pursue those principles which are based on the high interests of our people. Those policies which are founded on self-interest will not be considered and are doomed to inevitable failure.

We want good relations with our neighbors without consideration of socioeconomic systems, to live with them in an atmosphere of peace and security, and even have reciprocal cooperation; we expect them to do the same. Therefore, we have expressed our readiness to maintain peace and stability in the region and have taken all necessary measures. Because we believe that peace and security in the region and peaceful coexistence and good neighborliness are the demands of time and the rightful demand of all peoples, including the toiling Muslim people of Afghanistan, Pakistan, and Iran. To reach this goal, we will put these measures into action. Our request to the neighboring Governments of Pakistan and Iran is that they take into consideration the objective realities of the region and of time, reconsider their unrealistic policies in connection with the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, and respond with good will and good intentions to our rational voice so as to solve problems through negotiations. To reach this goal, a rational and correct beginning is contained in the proposals of the DRA concerning the solution of the situation around Afghanistan. Also in our view, the Geneva negotiations contain a positive response. We desire the continuation of such contacts and we expect these contacts will prepare the ground of direct talk between the countries concerned, that is, ground for direct negotiations between the DRA, Pakistan, and Iran.

Unfortunately, however, so far our neighbors are not showing the necessary readiness to play a positive role and respond to the rightful demand of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan. We are fully confident that our neighboring brothers, the peoples of Pakistan and Iran, who have profound historical relations of understanding with the people of Afghanistan, support the DRA position and desire an atmosphere of peace, security, and sincerity in the region. The noble people of Pakistan and Iran will make their governments ensure that lasting peace and security in the region will be established.

Dear brother and sister compatriots, our foreign policy is not only concerned with peace and security in the region. We consider the defense and security of the world on an international level as our major and fundamental duty. Pursuing this policy, we resolutely condemn and abhore the efforts and designs of imperialism, headed by U.S. militarist imperialism, to create tension in the world and interfere in the internal affairs of independent countries. We condemn the U.S. militarism and nuclear warmongering policy. We vigorously condemn the seditious designs and armed interference of the United States in the small countries of Grenada, Nicaragua, revolutionary Cuba, other Latin American countries, and Africa, against the people of Lebanon, in the Gulf region, and in Asia, and the establishment of military bases in Pakistan.

We are on the side of the forces of peace and progress, headed by the Soviet Union, and completely support the principled, rational, and humane policy of our great northern neighbor in defending peace, the security of peoples, and stopping the war-mongering designs of imperialism. We support the initiatives of the Soviet Union in this regard, in particular in eliminating tension on the European Continent and in curbing the arms race. We stand among the ranks of the liberating forces, of the struggling peoples of the world, and wish them victories in their struggles against reaction, old and neocolonialism, imperialism, Zionism, fascism, racism, apartheid, and racial prejudice.

Compatriots, the successes and victories of 1983 give us the opportunity to look to the future optimistically and full of the joy of revolutionary victory. We can express sincere satisfaction that the coming year is the year for further victories, the year for work, struggle, and productive efforts, the year for the further socioeconomic development of the country. For this purpose, we should start the spring of this year with further efforts and work particularly on sowing and agriculture; and we should forge ahead in the formidable and sacred struggle with solid faith and firmness.

All necessary prerequisites exist so that in the near future, relying on the power of revolutionary faith and on the hard work of the toiling people, we can take broad steps for the creation of a new, tranquil, and prosperous society and fly the red-colored banner of the martyrs and heroes on the path of freedom for the people of Afghanistan and keep it fresh and fluttering in the spring breeze.

Noble compatriots, the future belongs to you and to your sons. This future will be bright and full of peace, fraternity, equality, and [word indistinct]. From now on, from this spring, we should endeavor to bring it closer, that is to say, to bring closer the prosperity of the present and future generations.

In conclusion, once again with the hope of security in the country, prosperity, and tranquillity of the people of beloved Afghanistan, I congratulate you on the new year, on the new spring, on the historic Nowruz, compatriot brothers and sisters, each Afghan family in the country and every Afghan who loves his homeland, wherever he may be.

Compatriots, we firmly believe that our sons and our future generations will live in prosperity and tranquillity. It is for this great, lofty, and noble thought of the toiling person that the democratic revolution took place in our country. Therefore, victory will certainly and resolutely come to the revolutionary and heroic people of Afghanistan.

Long live the emancipating revolution. Greeting and best wishes to you sisters and compatriot brothers. Greetings to the spring of prosperity, to the new year, and greetings to all toiling peasants of our beloved homeland, to the peasants of an independent country, an independent and proud country -- heroic Afghanistan.

'Counterrevolutionaries 'Wiped Out' in Nimruz

LD200733 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0439 GMT 20 Mar 84

[Text] Kabul, March 19 BAKHTAR — The alert security forces of the DRA are giving deadly blows to mercenaries of world imperialism, who undermine peaceful life in the DRA.

According to recent reports from Nimruz Province, the security forces have wiped out a large group of the counter-revolutionaries in a village located 60 kilometers south of the Zaranj city, the center of the province. In this operation a large arsenal of Chinese and U.S. made weapons, including rockets and rocket launchers, several boxes of explosives, communication equipments, medicines and documents revealing their ominous ties with enemies abroad were seized by the security forces.

Also in Kandahar Province the security forces crushed a group of 68 hired terrorists who disrupted peace and security in this area. This group belonged to the so-called Islami bands. Five units of heavy machineguns, 11 rifles, over 3,000 bullets, 8 hand grenades, 3 anti-tank mines, 4 rocket launchers along with incriminating documents and propaganda pamphlets were seized from these bandits.

AFP: Police Bust Spy Ring; Pakistani Arrested

BK270819 Hong Kong AFP in English 0745 GMT 27 Mar 84

[Text] New Delhi, March 27 (AFP) — Police in Barmer, in Rajasthan State close to the Pakistan border, have busted a spy ring by arresting five persons allegedly engaged in supplying defence secrets to Pakistan, the daily *TIMES OF INDIA* said today.

The spies, including their suspected kingpin, a Pakistani national, were nabbed last week-end but their identities were not disclosed.

The Pakistani was said to have made several trips to Rajasthan from across the border with the help of his local accomplices, according to the paper.

Further Talks Held To End Dock Strike

BK270917 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 27 Mar 84

[Text] Further talks to end the port and dock workers strike were held in New Delhi this morning. The package proposal for wage settlement given yesterday by the shipping and transport minister, Mr Vijaya Bhaskara Reddy, was discussed in detail.

It may be recalled that the proposal totaling about 40 crore rupees envisages an increase of 18.5 percent over the existing wage bill of 216.31 crore rupees. It is understood that workers representatives sought further clarifications, which were given by the minister. The union leaders are also understood to have given alternative proposal which will be examined by the government.

The talks will resume tomorrow.

1 Killed, 1 Injured in Punjab Incidents

BK261611 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 26 Mar 84

[Text] In Punjab, one person was killed and another injured in two different violent incidents during the last 24 hours.

The gunman of the State Bank of India branch in (Jhappal) village in Amritsar was injured when he resisted the attempt of three unidentified armed persons to loot the bank.

In another incident last night, a private medical practioner was injured when an unidentified person shot at him at (Basawar) in Hosshiarpur district.

Some miscreants set on fire a state Roadways bus and two [word indistinct] road transport buses in the Moga depot of Punjab Roadways in the early hours of today. The Punjab Roadways bus was completely burnt. The other two buses were saved with the timely help of the Central Reserve Police Force men and the fire brigade.

Gandhi Welcomes Austrian Chancellor 26 March

BK261026 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 26 Mar 84

[Excerpt] The Austrian chancellor, Dr Fred Sinowatz, arrived in New Delhi this morning from Bombay on a state visit. He was given a warm welcome at the airport by the prime minister, Mrs Gandhi, and her Cabinet colleagues. The Austrian chancellor is accompanied by minister of trade and industry and a high-level delegation.

Talking to newsmen at the airport, Dr Sinowatz expressed his country's keen desire to strengthen and expand the cooperation with India, especially in the economic field. He said possibilities of cooperation in third countries will also be explored.

Asked about the security environment in Europe, Dr Sinowatz said we have to find new ways for relaxing tension in the world.

Views Exchanged

BK261639 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 26 Mar 84

[Text] The Austrian chancellor, Dr Fred Sinowatz, and the prime minister, Mrs Gandhi, have had wide-ranging exchange of views on various international developments. Their talks lasted 1 and 1/2 hours. They were assisted by their principal secretaries.

Mrs Gandhi told Dr Sinowatz that she is in touch with world leaders on the issues that were discussed at the informal summit in New York and whether another such conference should be held. The New York summit had been held at the initiative of Mrs Gandhi to discuss issues of peace, disarmament, and development.

The two leaders also went over the progress made in the work relating to the convening of an international conference on money and finance as suggested by the New Delhi nonaligned summit.

Apart from these issues, they briefed each other about the situation in their regions and the current international development. They also briefly reviewed bilateral matters.

Official delegations of the two countries met separately and discussed various matters.

Dr Sinowatz called on the president, Giani Zail Singh, at Rastrapati Bhawan [President's House]. Mrs Gandhi is giving a dinner in honor of the Austrian chancellor tonight.

Zia Expresses Concern Over Gulf War Expansion

GF261025 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0704 GMT 26 Mar 84

[Text] Dubayy, 26 Mar (WAKH) — Pakistani President General Mohammad Ziaul Haq has expressed his country's concern over the possibility of the expansion of war between Iraq and Iran and the involvement of the superpowers in it.

In a statement published by *AL-BAYAN* here today, the Pakistani president said that the Iraqi-Iranian war is considered a source of deep anxiety to the Pakistani Government and people and that it does not only dangerously threaten the security of the entire region, it can also lead to foreign intervention which would result in very dangerous and long-term effects. He pointed out that following the breakout of the war and at the ICO's request, he made a fact-finding tour of the two countries and that he will spare no effort to stop this war.

Ziaul Haq denied that Pakistan is about to produce nuclear weapons. He said his country has not tried to possess the nuclear bomb or to manufacture it, but at the same time it does not relinquish its right to acquire nuclear technology.

The Pakistani president spoke on the application of Islamic law in his country and said that it is being applied in all walks of life, pointing to the measures he has adopted in the economic, educational, and judicial fields.

Islamic Peace Contingent Set To Visit Iran

GF261450 Karachi DAWN in English 22 Mar 84 p 2

[Text] Rawalpindi, March 21 — A peace contingent of Jamiat Ittehad Alam-i-Islami [Association for Unity of Islamic World] will leave for Iran on March 31 to persuade the Iranian Government for the ceasefire in the Iran-Iraq war, said Mr Anwar Jalees, a leader of the Jamiat while speaking at a press conference here this afternoon.

Mr Anwar Jalees said that the contingent will be comprised of 32 members from all the four provinces and will visit also Iraq, Kuwait and Saudi Arab to find out a proper solution to resolve this crisis amicably.

He said that the war between the two Muslim countries is not only damaging their establishments and economy but also creating an impression of sectarianism in the Muslim world which is harmful to the whole ummah. — PPI.

Reportage on Malaysian Prime Minister's Visit

22 March Arrival

BK221008 Karachi Overseas Service in Urdu 0800 GMT 22 Mar 84

[Text] The Malaysian prime minister, Datuk Sri Mahathir bin Mohamed, was accorded a very warm welcome when he arrived in Islamabad a short while ago. The President and Begum Mohammad Ziaul Haq welcomed the Malaysian prime minister and his wife at the airport. The two leaders embraced and shook hands warmly. As soon as the Malaysian prime minister alighted from his special plane, a 19-gun salute boomed, and a large crowd of people gathered at the airport welcomed the distinguished guests with applause and slogans. Small children presented bouquets to the distinguished guests. A smartly turned out contingent of the three Armed Forces presented a guard of honor and the national anthems of the two countries were played. Those present at the airport to welcome the distinguished guests included: Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee Chairman General Rahimuddin Khan, Vice Chief of Army Staff General K. M. Arif, Naval Chief Admiral Tariq Kamal Khan, Chief of the Air Staff Air Chief Marshal Mohammad Anwar Shamim, federal ministers, councillors, the city's elite, diplomatic respresentatives, and senior civil and military officials.

Zia-Mahathir Meeting

BK230139 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 22 Mar 84

[Text] Wide-ranging talks on bilateral relations and the international situation were held between the Malaysian prime minister, Dr Mahathir bin Mohamed, and the president, General Mohammad Ziaul Haq, in Rawalpindi this evening. Official sources said the talks, which lasted for 3 hours, were held in a cordial atmosphere and were highly rewarding. The two leaders expressed gratification that considerable progress has been achieved in the development of closer relations since President Mohammad Ziaul Haq's visit to Malaysia in November 1982.

During the talks, special emphasis was placed on discussions on concrete proposals to achieve meaningful progress in trade and other exchanges between the two countries. The two sides discussed identification of products that could be exported from Pakistan to Malaysia to rectify the existing trade imbalance. The sources said discussions were also held on promoting possible mechanism aimed at prevention of (?wide) fluctuations in commodities exchanged between the two countries. The two sides agreed that shipping and air communications between the two countries were required to be established and augmented on a regular basis. Views were also exchanged on a joint venture project in the Karachi export processing zone based on Malaysian palm oil. Another project that came under discussion related to tin plating. They also discussed proposals for enhancement of cooperation in the field of education, especially providing facilities in professional institutions.

President Zia and Premier Mahathir bin Mohamed exchanged views on the current international situation, with special reference to the Middle East, the Gulf war, and Afghanistan, and Kampuchea. President Zia informed the prime minister of Malaysia that Pakistan will participate in the International Industrial Fair to be held in Malaysia and the International Exhibition on Islamic Civilization due to be held later this year.

Pakistan and Malaysia have called for withdrawal of foreign troops from Afghanistan and Kampuchea to ensure security and stability in the area. Speaking at a banquet given by the president in honor of the Malaysian prime minister in Islamabad tonight, the two leaders emphasized the need for seeking a settlement of these issues to enable the peoples of these countries to determine

freely their own political and economic systems and enable the helpless refugees to return to their homes in safety and honor.

President Mohammad Ziaul Haq in his speech emphasized that the withdrawal of foreign troops from Afghanistan and Kampuchea will restore the independence and sovereignty of these countries. He said the crisis in Afghanistan not only constitutes a (?strangling) of universally recognized principles but is also a grave human tragedy. He said it is Pakistan's endeavor to seek a settlement of the Afghan problem. He said they also wish and appeal to Iran and Iraq to seek a peaceful settlement of their conflict which is a source of deep anguish to Pakistan and Malaysia as Muslim states.

Referring to regional cooperation, the president said Pakistan is endeavoring most sincerely to work for promotion of (?South Asian) regional cooperation, as it will contribute to the growth of peace and stability in the region. In the context, he added, we can emulate the example of the ASEAN countries. He said he believed that a sincere adherence to the principles of mutual respect for each other's independence and integrity, sovereign equality, noninterference in internal affairs, and mutual benefit would ensure great improvement in the situation.

The Malaysian prime minister, Datuk Sri Dr Mahathir bin Mohamed, in his speech said Malaysia and Pakistan hold identical positions on the possible settlement of Kampuchea and Afghanistan, that is, the withdrawal of foreign military forces, recognition of the rights of the Kampuchean and Afghan people to self-determination and independence free from outside interference, and return of the refugees to their homes.

Referring to bilateral relations, he expressed the hope that these would be further strengthened as a result of his visit to Pakistan. He said the two countries have been able to cooperate successfully and closely at various international forums, particularly at the Islamic Conference Organization. He said Malaysia highly regards Pakistan's active and consistent role in promoting cooperation and solidarity among Islamic countries.

Mahathir: Talks 'Fruitful'

BK251052 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 25 Mar 84

[Text] In an interview in Lahore this morning, the Malaysian prime minister, Datuk Sri Dr Mahathir bin Mohamed, described his talks with President Mohammad Ziaul Haq as very friendly and fruitful, and said these talks have brought the two countries closer to each other. He said he visualized very close relations between Pakistan and his country in all fields in future.

About the process of Islamization in Pakistan, the Malaysian prime minister said he was happy to note Pakistan's success and hoped Pakistan would emerge as a stronger country and would be more helpful to the Muslim world.

Earlier, at a simple ceremony in Lahore this morning, he was presented with three milch animals on behalf of the president.

Zia: Talks 'Useful'

BK260259 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 25 Mar 84

[Text] President Mohammad Ziaul Haq has described his talks with the visiting Malayasian prime minister as useful and said Datuk Sri Dr Mahathir's visit has further strengthened relations between the two countries. He was talking to newsmen on arrival in Karachi this evening from Islamabad. He said Pakistan and Malaysia had identity of views and being Islamic countries they had the best of relations.

In reply to a question, the president said he had no intention of issuing fresh invitations to leaders of defunct political parties for talks. But he was always ready for talks with anyone in the national interest. In reply to a question, he said the law and order situation in the country is normal but publicity being given to crime in a section of the press is out of proportion which gives a distorted view of the situation. He said criminals are prosecuted under the law of the land. Only heinous crimes can be brought before martial law courts. He said the real solution of the problem is reformation of the society.

Replying to a question, the president said Urdu is being gradually introduced in government offices and no fresh order is required in this regard.

Visit to Refugee Camp

BK261357 Kuala Lumpur NEW SUNDAY TIMES in English 25 Mar 84 pp 1,6

[Excerpt] Islamabad, Sat — Malaysia has agreed to allow the Islamic alliance of the Afghan Mujahidin (freedom fighters) to set up an office in Kuala Lumpur, Prime Minister Datuk Sri Dr Mahathir Mohamed said yesterday. He said the Malaysian Government "accepted wholeheartedly" the application by the Mujahidin to set up its representive office in the Malaysian capital.

Dr Mahathir was speaking to about 1,000 Afghan refugees when he visited the Ghazi refugee camp in Tarbela, some 10 km from here. BERNAMA reports that the refugees, who came out in full force to wecome the Malaysian Prime Minister, gave a thunderous applause when he made the announcement.

Dr Mahathir flew by a Pakistani military helicopter to the camp. He was accompanied by Datuk Paduka Datin Sri Dr Siti Hasmah and Malaysian Culture, Youth and Sports Minister Encik Answer Ibrahim.

Dr Mahathir told the refugees that Malaysia would continue to be together with the Afghanistan people in their effort to free their country. "Muslims in Malaysia are following closely your struggle. We know of the sufferings of the people of Afghanistan who are forced to leave their own country because they cannot bear to live under Communist rule," he said. "We are confident and we pray that one day you all can go back to your homeland and drive the Communists out."

The Prime Minister said Malaysia hoped to continue assisting the Afghan refugees in whatever way possible.

He expressed his appreciation to Pakistan for accepting the Afghan refugees who now total three million.

Mahathir News Conference

BK261718 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 26 Mar 84

[Text] Addressing a news conference in Karachi this morning, the Malaysian prime minister praised Pakistan for achieving the desired success in the process of changing the country's laws according to Islamic principles. He said we will prove to the world that Islamic organizations and principles are effective and practical.

On atomic energy, Dr Mahathir said no one has a monopoly on it. He said he was very impressed by the remarkable job of Pakistan's nuclear energy research organization in researching peaceful uses of nuclear energy and particularly in assisting the Malaysian scientists in setting up a center in Malaysia.

On bilateral trade, the Malaysian prime minister said that after inspecting some of the industries in Pakistan during the visit, he received the impression that the Pakistani traders are capable of supplying standard goods to Malaysia and that trade cooperation and relations between the two countries will increase further.

Join: Communique

BK270540 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 26 Mar 84

[Excerpts] Pakistan and Malaysia have expressed their full satisfaction at the development of their mutual relations. They have noted the significant progress made in various fields since the Pakistani president's visit to Malaysia in November 1982. A joint communique issued at the end of Malaysian Prime Minister Datuk Sri Dr Mahathir bin Mohamed's official visit to Pakistan says that they are particularly gratified by the steady increase in trade as well as in economic, technical, and other fields of cooperation.

The Pakistani president and the Malaysian prime minister reaffirmed their full support to resolutions of the United Nations, the Nonaligned Movement, and the OIC [Islamic Conference Organization] calling for the withdrawal of foreign troops from Afghanistan, restoration of its sovereign and independent status, respect for the rights of the Afghan people to determine their political and economic system, and the return of the Afghan refugees to their homes in safety and honor.

The prime minister of Malaysia expressed profound sympathy for the Afghan refugees and appreciation for the shelter and humanitarian assistance being provided to them by Pakistan in the tradition of Islamic brotherhood. The two leaders expressed the hope that the forthcoming visit of the UN secretary general's representative to the region would be fruitful.

The two leaders called for the total withdrawal of foreign forces from Kampuchea and the restoration of its independence, sovereignty, and neutrality and respect for the legitimate rights of the Kampuchean people to determine their own future. They reaffirmed their support for the establishment a zone of peace, freedom, and neutrality in Southeast Asia.

The two leaders strongly condemned the continuing Israeli aggression against the Arab and Palestinian people and called for a total and unconditional Israeli withdrawal from all occupied Arab territories. The two leaders made an urgent appeal to Iran and Iraq for the immediate cessation of hostilities and to seek resolution of their differences through peaceful (?negotiations).

The Malaysian prime minister extended an invitation to the President and Begum Mohammad Ziaul Haq to visit Malaysia which has been accepted.

26 March Departure

BK260655 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0600 GMT 26 Mar 84

[Excerpts] Malaysian Prime Minister Datuk Sri Dr Mahathir bin Mohamed was given a warm send-off when he left Karachi for Kuala Lumpur this morning at the end of his official visit to Pakistan. President General Mohammad Ziaul Haq bid him farewell at the airport.

Pakistan and Malaysia have expressed complete satisfaction at the growth of bilateral relations and have noted notable progress in cooperation in various fields since the Pakistani president's state visit to Malaysia in November 1982. This was stated in a joint communique issued at the end of Malaysian Prime Minister Datuk Sri Mahathir bin Mohamed's official visit to Pakistan.

The communique says the two countries are specially satisfied at the fast growing cooperation in trade, economy, technology, and other sectors. Both countries expressed satisfaction at the outcome of the first session of the Joint Economic Commission held last August in Kuala Lumpur. The communique says it is a matter of satisfaction for both countries that a program on cultural exchanges and cooperation is being prepared, and a protocol in this connection will be signed soon.

The communique adds that the Pakistani president and the Malaysian prime minister have instructed their respective governments to make large-scale efforts to implement schemes aimed at increasing cooperation in economy, trade, education, technology, religion, and culture. They expressed happiness that talks are to be finalized soon for the joint venture of setting up a plant for processing raw material.

Kuala Lumpur Account

BK261403 Kuala Lumpur Domestic Service in English 1130 GMT 26 Mar 84

[Text] Malaysia and Pakistan have expressed concern over the deteriorating international situation and increasing tendency of

some states, particularly the superpowers, to intervene and use force to conduct international relations.

In a joint communique issued at the conclusion of the 5-day official visit of Datuk Sri Dr Mahathir Mohamed to Pakistan, the prime minister and President Ziaul Haq also expressed their concern at the escalating arms race. The two leaders called on all states to cooperate in international efforts for general and complete disarmament under effective international control.

Meanwhile, Datuk Sri Dr Mahathir has left Lahore for Kuala Lumpur. In a news conference before leaving for home, the prime minister said Malaysia is receiving 18 Pakistani medical specialists to overcome the shortage of doctors. (?They resolved) to be taking more Pakistani general medical practitioners. The prime minister described the assistance as an example where Muslim countries could cooperate and assist one another.

On trade between the two countries, he said Pakistani entrepreneurs could sell their products in Malaysia because their goods were of quality comparable to those produced by other countries. The prime minister disclosed that Pakistan has set up a permanent display center in Kuala Lumpur to promote its goods.

Lahore Students Demonstrate Against Union Ban

GF241236 Karachi DAWN in English 20 Mar 84 p 2

[Text] Lahore, March 19 — A group of students belonging to the defunct Islami Jamiat-i-Talaba demonstrated on Monday on the mall and damaged five Urban Transport Corporation buses and the police kiosk at the Regal Chowk.

Two of the demonstrating students are reported to have been arrested.

The students numbering about 40, appeared at the High Court crossing of the mall at about noon and started raising anti-government slogans, demanding the restoration of the student unions and other organisations. They caught hold of four Urban Transport Corporation buses at the crossing and broke their window-panes and wind-screens and punctured their tyres. They also punctured a passenger wagon on its way to Gulberg.

The students then marched towards the Regal Chowk, shouting slogans. They hurled bricks and flower-pots on the police kiosk causing it extensive damage. A head constable who was on duty at the time, had to run for his life. Students threw bricks on him some of which he caught. Afterwards, the demonstrators went on to the Hall Road where they damaged another Urban Transport Corporation bus. Shopkeepers on the Hall Road brought their shutters down. When police arrived on the scene, the students vanished into bylanes. However, two of them were arrested by the police.

The demonstration lasted half an hour.

NAWA-E WAQT on Attempted Assassination Plan

GF241125 Lahore NAWA-E WAQT in Urdu 20 Mar 84 p 3

[Editorial: "Chanting Ram, With Knife Hidden in Armpit!"]

[Excerpts] The prestigious British newspaper *THE SUNDAY TIMES* made a startling revelation through its Islamabad correspondent. According to the paper, exiled Pakistan People's Party leaders in London, in collusion with India, had planned to assassinate President Ziaul Haq and many leading Pakistani personages. A total of 200-300 people were to be fully armed for this plot, but it was foiled and the arms seized. The arms, which consisted of surface-to-air missiles, antitank missiles, automatic rifles, mortars, and plastic bombs, had been concealed in the bottoms of trucks and smuggled into Pakistan.

The newspaper reports that the Indian envoy to Pakistan, Mr Sharma, has vehemently denied the existence of such a plot, but that the No 3 three figure in the Indian Embassy, Mr Prasad, who is also a former police officer and in charge of the Indian organization "RAW" [Research and Analysis Wing] in Pakistan, secretly left for India when the plot was revealed. After a new days, his personal servants, who were also "RAW" members, secretly left for India after the arms' cache was seized. A charade about their "disappearance" was staged by India and later hushed up.

If this revelation is true — and there is no reason for it to be otherwise, because of the nexus of events, and, as more facts surface, even the Western embassies in Islamabad are becoming convinced of this heinous plot — then we can only say that it is very unfortunate though not unexpected. Pakistan has always endeavored to maintain friendly and fraternal relations with its neighbors because all the countries of the subcontinent, India and Pakistan particularly, need complete peace and harmony in order to banish poverty and to tread the path of progress and prosperity.

Only yesterday, President Ziaul Haq, in response to a correspondent's query, said we should not be intimidated by the movement of Indian troops on our borders. He expressed hope that India will not take any step which endangers peace in the region. (It may be noted that India has massed 18 divisions on the Indian-Pakistan border). Defense Minister Ali Ahmad Talpur has said in no uncertain terms that Pakistan will not wage a war with India until India attacks us. In case of an attack, we will defend our dear country to the utmost and give a crushing answer to the enemy.

It is sad to note that the people were kept in the dark about this incident and that news of it had to come from a London newspaper. Such news items should not be kept from the people especially when they concern national safety and security which every Pakistani is interested. If the nation had been taken into confidence, every individual would have been vigilant and would have kept a watchful eye on any suspicious person or movement. The people are not unaware of London's machinations or of

India's intentions. Revengeful people continue to hatch conspiracies abroad, but we must remain alert and, simultaneously, we must impress on India that its own security and the peace of the region depends on its goodneighborliness. We do not want the Indian leaders to pay lipservice to peace while continuing to hatch arcane plots which reveal their true intentions when exposed. What the Indians are doing can only be considered an act of revenge and they should ponder for a moment over how long "chanting Ram [Indian term for God] and hiding a knife in the armpit continue to dupe others!

MRD Leader Says Doors Open to All Parties

GF241228 Karachi DAWN in English 20 Mar 84 p 1

[Text] Quetta, March 19 — Mr Musheer Peshimam, secretary-general of the defunct Tehrik-i-Istiqlal, said here on Monday that the MRD had come to stay, and added that its doors were open to all parties which could subscribe to its four points.

Talking to newsmen here, Tehrik leader said the need of the hour was that the country should be taken out of present critical situation, which could be done only through a political process. He described meaningful elections, ensuring transfer of power, as the only solution to the country's problems.

Mr Peshimam, in reply to a question, said that if the general election, as promised by President Ziaul Haq, proved to be meaningful, component parties in the MRD would unhesitatingly accept results. As far as his party was concerned, he said it was always ready to discuss with the president, modalties of holding of elections and transfer of power, without compromising the MRD's four points.

In reply to another question, Mr Peshimam said that elections ought to be held under the 1973 Constitution and all political parties should be allowed to participate. He said it was only through a democratic setup that the federation could be strengthened. The Tehrik leader told a questioner that Pakistan should keep itself aloof from superpower rivalry in the region, and suggested that the government should hold direct talks with the Karmal regime for seeking a solution to the Afghanistan problem. His party, he said, had a clear stand on the Afghan issue and wanted that Soviet troops should be withdrawn from Afghanistan.

BANGLADESH

215 Prisoners Freed; Open Politics Ban Lifted

BK261623 Hong Kong AFP in English 1608 GMT 26 Mar 84

[Text] Dhaka, March 26 (AFP) — A total of 215 political prisoners were released and a ban on open politics lifted to mark the 13th anniversary of Bangladesh's independence today, officials said. Those freed by President Hussain Mohammad Ershad's military regime included three former Cabinet ministers.

A senior official said that free political activity, banned since last November following violent clashes between police and demonstrators, would be allowed from today as Lieutenant General Ershad promised in a nationwide broadcast on February 29.

The former ministers, released yesterday, were S.A. Bari, who was deputy premier, Abul Kashem, ex-youth minister, and Atauddin Khan, a former state minister. All served in the cabinet of assassinated President Ziaur Rahman.

A return to open political activity and the release of political prisoners were among the demands put forward by the country's two opposition alliances as preconditions for their taking part in a dialogue with the military regime. Last week, the two alliances, which group 22 political parties, successfully forced a postponement of local sub-district elections.

SRI LANKA

3 Policemen Killed; Security Minister Urges Calm

BK270859 Hong Kong AFP in English 0837 GMT 27 Mar 84

[Text] Colombo, March 27 (AFP) — The government has appealed for calm in the south after Tamil separatists gunned down three policemen and two passers-by in the troubled north of this island republic.

New minister for national security, Lalith Athulathmudali, urged people yesterday not to play into the hands of Tamil militants by allowing incidents in the north to provoke them to violence.

He asked for people to react calmly not only to the news of the killings but also a police sources report that the navy stopped a boat carrying 500 kilograms (1,100 pounds) of high explosives to the Tamil heartland in the north.

Mr. Lalith warned that the separatists hoped to trigger violent reprisals in the south and then keep the security forces tied down there quelling the violence: "nobody must fall victim to this ploy," he said.

Some of Sri Lanka's 2.5 million Tamils — alleging discrimination at the hands of governments dominated by the Sinhala majority — seek to set up an independent Tamil state in the north and east.

The ambush killing of 13 soldiers by northern separatists last July whipped up an anti-Tamil backlash and in ensuing riots nearly 400 people died and about 110,000 lost their homes.

Some observers saw the murder of three policemen on Sunday as a violent riposte to the setting up on Friday of a new ministry especially to fight "terrorism."

The policemen were gunned down shortly after Mr. Lalith visited Jaffna, the northern capital, to assess the situation.

Details of the shooting were unclear, but apparently an armed gang attacked the three policemen as they were leaving a small restaurant. Two passers-by, one a 17-year-old boy, were killed as the gang made its escape.

The latest shooting brought the number of security personnel killed by separatists since 1977 to around 75.

Meanwhile police sources said that police had arrested five people aboard a boat stopped by the navy and found to be carrying gelignite and detonators.

Two of those held aboard the boat, believed to have come from India, had links with "terrorists," the sources said.

Investigators believed that the arrests could lead to a breakthrough in the campaign against the separatists. The government maintains that separatist groups are receiving military training in Southern India.

The Indian Government has denied any knowledge of this, but an Indian magazine reported recently on what it called Tamil bases in Southern India. The government has since called on New Delhi to investigate the reports of training of separatists.

Delhi: Press Censorship Reimposed Until May

BK270301 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 27 Mar 84

[Text] In Sri Lanka, press censorship has been reimposed after a gap of a month. It is enforced under the prevention of terrorism act and will continue until May. The foreign press is also under its purview.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani Briefed on Pontoon Bridge

LD271229 Tehran IRNA in English 1133 GMT 27 Mar 84

[Text] Tehran, March 27, IRNA — Minister of Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps (IRGC) Mohsen Rafiqdust met and conferred with Majlis Speaker Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani today.

During the meeting Rafiqdust gave a report on the 13 kms long pontoon bridge erected over Hawr al-Huwayzah marshlands.

Rafsanjani thanked the engineering units of IRGC and the minister and also role played by the reconstruction jihad as well as cooperation of heavy industries.

Meanwhile Minister of Heavy Industries Behzad Nabavi called on Majlis speaker today. He submitted a report on development of industrial projects particularly the readiness of Heavy Industries Ministry for big military projects including the pontoon bridge of Hawr.

Majlis Speaker on War, Lebanon, Rumsfeld Trip

LD271103 Tehran IRNA in English 1050 GMT 27 Mar 84

[Text] Tehran, March 27, IRNA — The Majlis speaker and representative of Imam Khomeyni in the Supreme Defence Council, Hojjat ol-Eslam Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani, said that in the near future foreign journalists will be invited to visit the Majnun islands. This visit would put Saddam in further disgrace even though he is not afraid of such humiliation.

Rafsanjani who was interviewed by the morning daily *JOMHURI-ESLAMI (ISLAMIC REPUBLIC)* published today said further on the Iraqi imposed war that Saddam was kept alive through massive propaganda. As part of this propaganda they have been referring to victories scored by the Islamic forces as unverifiable.

On the situation of the warfronts, he said it is as we want, were have fulfilled our objectives.

On the Iraqi allegations that it has hit four tankers in Khark Island, he said no such incident had taken place. The Iraqi commanders in a bid to compensate for defeats they have suffered, have made such statements, the intention is to project the Persian Gulf as unsafe and to this end the Western mass media have been cooperating with them, he added. "This is a media and propaganda plot," Rafsanjani added.

Commenting on situation in Lebanon, he said it was complicated and the world oppressors despite their setbacks and humiliating defeat at the hands of Lebanese Muslims, would not give up easily.

Speaking further on the issue he said that reconciliation in Lebanon would not be achieved unless demands of the people were met meaning that power would be distributed on a majority rule system, which inevitably deprives the Phalangists of minority rule.

On the trip of the special envoy Donald Rumsfeld, of the U.S. President and also the Egyptian foreign minister (Kamal Hassan Ali) to Baghdad, Rafsanjani said they aimed at boosting ego of Saddam and the Iraqi Ba'thist Party. Furthermore, he continued, such trips were part of the propaganda efforts in support of the Baghdad regime in persuance of objectives of the Arab ministers conference in Baghdad.

Meanwhile, such efforts enabled the Egyptian Government to bring itself out of isolation and return to Arab fold through the help of the Iraqi regime. The Iraqi regime volunteered to do this task and even assured the U.S. Administration that it was in favour of giving official recognition to the Zionist regime and providing it with the needed security. It is interesting that in the past the Iraqi regime pretended to be opposed to the Zionist regime.

On the new year message of President Khamene'i calling this year as the year of victory in the Iraqi imposed war, the Majlis speaker said that he was also of the same opinion. Once Iran became triumphant in the war, a great deal of potentials of the country could be used for reconstruction and development of the country.

Armed Forces Joint Staff Communique No 1,677

LD261713 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 26 Mar 84

[Communique No 1,677 of Joint Staff of Armed Forces of Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In the northeastern operational sector yesterday, the combatants of Islam used heavy fire and destroyed a number of Iraqi personnel and weaponry positions along the border fronts of Sar Dasht and Piranshah. In the Hajj 'Umran operational sector, they opened fire on a number of enemy engineering personnel, as a result of which a number of mercenaries were killed and wounded and their activities in that sector came to a halt.

Exchanges of fire continued on the western operational sector. The fire was more intense in the Sumar and Mehran regions. On the various fronts of the western operational sector, the able warriors of Islam opened artillery and other heavy weapons fire on enemy artillery, tank and infantry positions, supply routes, and mobile units, obstructed the Saddamists' engineering and logistic operations and movements, and inflicted losses and casualties.

On the southern operational sector, our forces continued to consolidate their positions and defended their protective posts, neutralizing all the enemy's locating operations with their timely fire. In addition, part of the enemy defensive lines and concentrations were set on fire.

Yesterday, as a result of the enemy's long-range weapons fire, 21 houses, 1 building, and 1 school were damaged in the city of Abadan.

Supreme Court Head Addresses Gulf, Oman Sea Fleet

LD261802 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 26 Mar 84

[Text] Supreme Court President Musavi-Ardabili, accompanied by member and spokesman of the Supreme Judicial Council, Moqtada'i, both of whom are visiting Hormozgan Province, today took part in the morning ceremony of the Persian Gulf and the Sea of Oman Fleet.

In this ceremony, the Supreme Court president spoke about the self-sacrifices and devotion of the Armed Forces in the region. Referring to the Navy, he said: We wish our dear Navy to be in keeping with the order of the Islamic Republic. Emphasizing the need for great obedience to Islamic culture in all fields, he said: If you have some weaknesses from a technological point of view, that is not important because technology is created by man and by his intellect and we possess the human beings.

At the end of his speech, referring to war, Musavi-Ardabili said: You will be the winners in the war. You have proved that you are invincible. In the past, the superpowers and their mercenaries had fixed their gaze upon every corner of these waters —ports and islands — and were threatening us. However, today they are confused and know that our Armed Forces will not give up what is theirs by right. The Strait of Hormuz is looking to you with anxiety. [as heard] You should act in such a way that the enemy will not dare to say that he will do this or that in the Strait of Hormuz. Today I think that that day is not far off. [as heard]

Envoy Discusses UN Chemical Weapons Report

GF270609 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 27 Mar 84

[Text] Following the publication of the UN report in which the use of chemical weapons by the Zionist Iraqi regime against the warriors of Islam has been confirmed by the UN experts sent to Iran, Raja'i-Khorassani, permanent representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations, answered questions posed by the Central News Unit correspondent in a telephone interview.

In response to the question on whether it is sufficient that the United Nations has condemned Iraq, he said: The report that was published was handed over to the secretary general of the United Nations a few days ago by the delegation and it is now a document of the United Nations. He added: In his preface to the report, the secretary general calls the Iraqi action one that must be despised, and in the eighth paragraph it is noted that the United Nations has always condemned the use of chemical weapons at any place or time. The secretary general, without referring to Iraq and prior to the dispatch of the delegation, had already condemned the use of chemical weapons in general terms. This paragraph now applies to Iraq without naming it.

In answer to a question on whether the Security Council can take measures to stop the Iraqi regime and punish it, he said: The Security Council is now experiencing special circumstances which are very different from the past. The political atmosphere coming from international media lies heavily over the Security Council. Its members, or at least its temporary members, are somewhat different from last year. [as heard]

Raja'i-Khorassani added: Even if the Security Council condemns Iraq, it is not clear whether it can stop Iraq from further use of chemical weapons. However, it can increase the political pressure on Iraq in a way that the Iraqi regime will automatically refrain from this crime. However, there is no guarantee that the Security Council can stop Iraq from repeating this crime.

In response to a question on past delegations sent to Iran by the United Nations to deal with the war and the possible differences between the latest delegation's report and those of the past, Raja'i-Khorassani said: This does not change the contents of the report. The advantage of this report is that it has a summary on pages 11 and 12, which confirms the use of chemical weapons by Iraq against the Iranian warriors. The type of weapons are identified as mustard gas and a variety of nerve gas. Thus, this report is different from the previous one.

Free Voice of Iran: Joint Staff Chief Resigns

GF261830 (Clandestine) Free Voice of Iran in Persian 1500 GMT 26 Mar 84

[Text] Brigadier General Zahirnezhad has resigned. The resignation of Zahirnezhad, chief of the Joint Staff, was handed over to Khomeyni before the Iranian new year even though he opposed it.

According to our reports, in his meeting with Khomeyni, Brig Gen Zahirnezhad informed him that opposition by the Iranian Armed Forces to the intervention of guards in military affairs and the opposition of the regime to promotions for the Armed Forces in addition to the continued presence of Armed Forces officers and NCO's at the fronts had made him unable to carry out his duties as the chief of the Joint Staff.

According to the same report, Khomeyni told Zahirnezhad: You people of the Armed Forces are idolatrous; Nowruz, leave, and holidays have no current meaning and all the Armed Forces must stay at the fronts until we reach Karbala.

Zahirnezhad apparently replied: After over 3 and 1/2 half years of war, the Armed Forcespersonnel are tired. None of the officers and NCO's in Iran have any desire to go to Karbala on pilgrimage. They want to go home and visit their families.

In response to Khomeyni's opposition to his resignation, he stated that as the chief of the Joint Staff, he is unable to again face the Armed Forces personnel who have been refused leave and promotions and are fed up with the intervention of the guards and have been at the fronts all this time. Since his last meeting with Khomeyni, Brig Gen Zahirnezhad has insisted that his resignation be accepted and has not seen Khomeyni since then.

Montazeri Says Aid to Fronts 'Uncoordinated'

LD241643 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 24 Mar 84

[Text] Our correspondent reports that the minister of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps met the Grand Ayatollah Montazeri and held discussions with him. At this meeting, Grand Ayatollah Montazeri referred to the people's extraordinary assistance to the fronts of the imposed war. He also discussed the lack of coordination in distributing the aid:

All this selflessness and devotion on the part of our great nation is really praiseworthy and laudable. May God bestow spiritual recompense on this devoted nation. However, it would appear from information received that the distribution of aid given by the people to the fronts has been uncoordinated in some places. A headquarters, consisting of army and Guards Corps representatives and the Crusade for Reconstruction, should be set up for the purpose of looking into the needs of the fronts and the various armies, both in the south and north, and something should be done to ensure that all aid given by the people from the various towns and regions of the country is sent to the headquarters, which should carefully study the needs of the various fronts and fulfill such needs without delay and without other problems occurring.

The Grand Ayatollah Montazeri emphasized: Our noble and devoted people who forward money or goods to the fronts do so with the firm intention of supplying the needs of the war and the combatants of Islam, and with no other thought.

According to the same report, over the past 2 days, meetings and discussions have been held with the Grand Ayatollah Montazeri by the head of the state inspectorate, the Friday imams of Garmsar, Azar Shahr and Babdanan, Kerman. During the meeting, 3.2 million rials were donated to Ayatollah Montazeri by the Friday imam of Azar Shahr and 1 million rials and a quantity of gold by the Friday imam of Garmsar, on behalf of the devoted inhabitants and people of these regions, as aid for the fronts of the imposed war. Praising the people of these regions, Ayatollah Montazeri prayed for the victory for the combatants of Islam.

Free Voice of Iran on Khomeyni-Montazeri Disagreement

GF251722 (Clandestine) Free Voice of Iran in Persian 1500 GMT 25 Mar 84

[Text] Irrespective of the attempts by the mullahs of Tehran to hide this, there is some disagreement between Khomeyni and Montazeri over a number of issues. According to *AL-MAJALLEH*, there is a good chance that Khomeyni will review his choice of successor and that absolute rule will not be given to Montazeri. Apparently, the mullahs of the regime are pressuring Khomeyni to hand over the leadership to a 5-man council of which Montazeri will be a member.

It had been reported in the past that the grand theologian will be the next imam. However, considering the fact that Montazeri is ridiculed by the people of Iran, the mullahs seem to have lost interest in their future hope. It is being reported that Hashemi-Rafsanjani heads the list of those opposing Montazeri as clerical ruler.

Radio Iran: Guards Attack Tabataba'i-Qomi's House

GF261447 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian 1330 GMT 26 Mar 84

[Text] The new attack by the guards of Khomeyni against the house of Ayatollah Tabataba'i-Qomi in Mashhad and the insult against this clerical figure who is a staunch opposer of the criminal regime of Khomeyni has angered the people of Mashhad. According to anationalist source, since the attack by the guards on the residence of Ayatollah Tabataba'i-Qomi, the city is no longer in a state of normalcy and there is a possibility of new incidents. The report adds that the armed agents of the regime were so angered because he ignored them that they broke all the doors and windows before encircling the house. The CBC radio in Paris confirmed this report this morning and announced that the people of Mashhad are very angry over the attack on the residence of Ayatollah Tabataba'i-Qomi by the guards of the Islamic regime and that it is possible that they will soon undertake actions in support of this ayatollah.

Foreign Ministry Delegation Departs for Turkey

LD261313 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 26 Mar 84

[Text] At the invitation of Turkey's Foreign Affairs Ministry, a delegation headed by the director-general of consular affairs of our country's Ministry of Foreign Affairs left for Turkey this morning. This delegation, which is carrying messages to the interior and foreign affairs ministers of Turkey, will hold talks with high-ranking Turkish officials on common consular issues.

Soviet Planes Use Chemical Weapons in Afghanistan

GF271032 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0900 GMT 27 Mar 84

[Excerpt] Reports from Afghanistan indicate that war planes belonging to the Soviet occupation forces twice strafed various areas in the Province of Baghlan with chemical weapons. The first shelling was aimed at the southern regions of Baghlan Province and resulted in skin diseases and sore eyes among many residents of the region. The second shelling took place on 9 March and was aimed at villages in the (Kulamri) region in northern Baghlan. The shelling caused serious loss of life among the residents. There are no further details on the losses.